

5. Office timing of Jyotipuram based offices may be implemented similar to that of ED Office, Jammu i.e. 10.00 A.M.-05:00 P.M.
6. Project School should be continued and a Lady Doctor be posted at Zorawar Hospital, Jyotipuram.
7. Since condition of the quarter has become poor, house rent recovery be stopped.
8. Cable connection may be provided free of cost in each quarter like other projects of NHPC.
9. In the discussions, management has agreed to provide one tube light in all quarters, 24 hours water supply in bath room of all quarters, whitewashing and painting of all quarters, safety shoes to all workers, payment of Hosue Rent Allowance to all employees who reside in their own houses but the management has adopted the policy to linger on the action on the issues.
10. To enhance the SCA from 5% to 30% and to make Helper and Beldar as Trademan.
11. NHPC may prepare its own better Pension Scheme.

Steps to tackle electricity theft and distribution losses

2976. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has declared that Government would tackle electricity theft and distribution losses on a war footing and work for a broad national consensus on power distribution and pricing reforms;

(b) whether the Prime Minister had called a meeting of Chief Ministers to discuss the power generation and distribution issues and the States' proposal that Central legislation should have a provision for levy of duty on generation of power by concerned State Government and allocation of appropriate portion of power generated to the host State, and

(c) the steps taken to meet the power shortage and also check electricity theft and distribution losses?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. While presenting the National Awards to Power Utilities for meritorious performance, the Prime Minister has stated that high transmission & distribution losses and theft of electricity are unacceptable and need to be tackled on a war footing. Further, the Prime Minister also underscored the need for reforms in power distribution and pricing.

(b) Yes, Sir. As a precursor to the meeting of Chief Ministers with Prime Minister, a meeting of Chief Secretaries of all the State was held on April 23-24, 2007 to discuss power related issues.

(c) The following measures/steps have been taken by the Government to improve power supply position in the country:

Short-term:

- (i) Improving Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing plants.
- (ii) Rigorous monitoring of production, transportation and stocking of coal at all major coal based plants in the country to ensure adequate availability of fuel to meet the improved PLF of coal stations. Import of coal to bridge constraints in production of domestic coal.
- (iii) Tapping of surplus power from captive power plants.
- (iv) Utilization of unutilized capacity of gas based stations on liquid fuel as well as purchase of gas from spot market.
- (v) Strengthening/augmentation of sub-transmission system in States under Accelerated Power Development Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards reduction of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses.
- (vi) Optimum utilization of available power by strengthening of inter-State and inter-regional transmission capacity.
- (vii) Coordinated operation and maintenance of hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas based power stations to optimally utilize the existing generation capacity.
- (viii) Promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.
- (ix) "Partnership in Excellence" Programme starting with adoption of

better operation and maintenance (O&M) practices to enable enhancement of Plant Load Factor (PLF) of existing thermal power stations through tie-up with well performing power utilities as a pre-cursor to major renovation and modernization/life extension.

- (x) Renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generation units with interest subsidy on loans by the Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electricity Corporation under "Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme (AG&SP)."

Long-term:

- (i) Creation of a National Grid for optimum utilization of generation capacity through inter-regional transfer of power.
- (ii) Launching of 50,000 MW hydro initiative for coordinated development of hydro sector.
- (iii) Identification of sites for thermal capacity over 1,00,000 MW.
- (iv) Power Finance Corporation and Rural Electrification Corporation have mobilized themselves to see that good generation projects are not hampered for lack of funds.
- (v) Rigorous monitoring of capacity addition of the on going generation projects.
- (vi) Advance planning of generation capacity addition projects for the 11th Five Year Plan and 12th Five Year Plan
- (vii) Implementation of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4000 MW each to achieve benefit of economy of scale.
- (viii) Procurement of hydro-electric power from Bhutan.

The various steps taken by Government of India to reduce the losses (which include theft of power also) of State Power Utilities and thereby improving the power distribution system:

- (i) Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) was launched in 2002-03 under which additional Central assistance was provided to States for taking up following technical, commercial and management measures:

(a) Technical Measures

- Installation of Efficient meters
- Upgradation and strengthening of the weak distribution system

- Relocation of distribution sub-stations and/or provision of additional distribution sub-stations
- Installation of lower capacity distribution transformers to serve a smaller number/cluster of consumers and substitution of distribution transformers with those having lower no-load losses
- Installation of shunt capacitors
- Adoption of High Voltage Distribution System (HVDS)
- Regular maintenance of distribution network
- GIS mapping of sub transmission and distribution including compilation of data.
- IT intervention

(b) Commercial Measures

- Improvement in metering and billing
- Improvement in revenue collection
- Energy accounting and auditing

(c) Management Measures

- Adoption of energy accounting and auditing
 - Proper network planning for future expansion
 - Preparation of long-term plans on regular basis for phased strengthening and improvement of the distribution systems along with associated transmission system
 - Training of employees
- (ii) Electricity Act, 2003 was enacted to bring competition in the sector. It also provides legal framework for making theft of electricity a cognizable offence.
- (iii) The National Electricity Policy was notified by the Ministry in 2005 after consultations with various stakeholders. It aims at laying guidelines for accelerated development of the power sector, providing supply of electricity to all areas and protecting interests of consumers and other stakeholders keeping in view availability of energy resources, technology available to exploit these

resources, economic of generation using different resources and energy security issues.

- (iv) With an objective to propagate adoption of best practices in the distribution sector. Ministry has organized National level workshops on best practices in distribution sector.

Allocation of funds to Uttar Pradesh

2977. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to Uttar Pradesh in the Tenth Five Year Plan under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Programme and the funds utilized by the State;

(b) the number of villages in the State which have been fully electrified so far and how many will be covered under the next plan;

(c) what is the total power requirement of the State presently and till the completion of next Five Year Plan, how much power is likely to be generated; and

(d) what will be the quantum of shortfall of power and how this shortfall is likely to be addressed under the programme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Funds to the tune of Rs. 2357.10 crores have been released to Uttar Pradesh in the Tenth Plan under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana and the entire amount has been utilized by the State Government.

(b) As per the progress report of village electrification published by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), out of 97,942 inhabited villages of U.P. 66,879 villages were electrified (as on 31.3.2006). Under RGGVY, during 2005-06 and 2006-07, 7,503 and 16,620 villages respectively were electrified in Uttar Pradesh. The remaining approximately 14,500 villages are to be electrified in the Eleventh Plan.

(c) and (d) As reported by CEA, during March, 2007, there was availability of 3,991 MU against the requirement of 4,363 MU. As such, there was a deficit of 372 MU (8.5%) in U.P. The State met the peak demand of 6,997 MW against the requirement of 8,181 MW. As such, there was a peak shortage of 1,184 MW (14.5%).